

## James Simons Elementary School

741 King Street  
Charleston, SC 29403



# South Carolina State Report Card

State and federal laws require public schools to release report cards to the public each year. This year, the report card has been updated to reflect changes in reporting directed by the SC Education Oversight Committee. Schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017 when the state will transition to a single accountability system. The following reports student performance in school year 2014-15.

<b>Grades:</b>	PK-6 Elementary	<b>Principal:</b>	Quenetta G. White
<b>Enrollment:</b>	270 students	<b>Superintendent:</b>	Mr. Michael L. Bobby, Acting Superinte
<b>School Phone:</b>	843-724-7763	<b>Board Chair:</b>	Mrs. Cindy Bohn Coats
<b>School Website:</b>	<a href="http://simons.ccsdschools.com/">http://simons.ccsdschools.com/</a>		



### Profile of the SC Graduate

#### World Class Knowledge

- Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness
- Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences\*

#### World Class Skills

- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Communication, information, media and technology
- Knowing how to learn

#### Life and Career Characteristics

- Integrity
- Self-direction
- Global perspective
- Perseverance
- Work ethic
- Interpersonal skills

\* 21st Century core courses in Social Sciences include History, Geography, Economics, Government and Civics.

### WORLD CLASS SKILLS & LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

*Our school is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the Graduate by ...*

James Simons Elementary (JSE) is helping all students develop the world class skills and life and career characteristics of the Profile of the SC Graduate through our Montessori focus. Our staff holds very high standards for themselves and students. They are passionate about teaching and learning and have created a positive, nurturing school environment. The Montessori approach promotes children's inherent love of learning by giving them the opportunity to be spontaneous and engage in meaningful activities under the guidance of a trained instructor. Children are driven naturally to work and learn. They develop concentration, motivation, persistence, self-discipline and progress at their own pace and rhythm. The organized curriculum presents lessons simply and concretely in the early years, and then reintroduces them in a more abstract and complex presentation during the subsequent year.

A Response to Intervention (RTI) model is fully implemented at JSE along with Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). PBIS increases student leadership and decision making and provides student recognition for appropriate choices. Our goal for PBIS is to improve behavior and to provide students with life skills necessary for positive and productive decision making. Our PBIS model is shared with families to assist with the transition of concepts to the home environment.

Collaboration with community agencies continues in an effort to provide assistance for specific student and family needs. Parental communications include parent sessions, student agenda books, daily homework folders, weekly courier information, a monthly calendar of events, newsletters, phone calls, e-mails, report cards, monthly progress reports, notes and conferences. We vigorously recruit parents to attend school events, volunteer, and participate in decision-making teams.

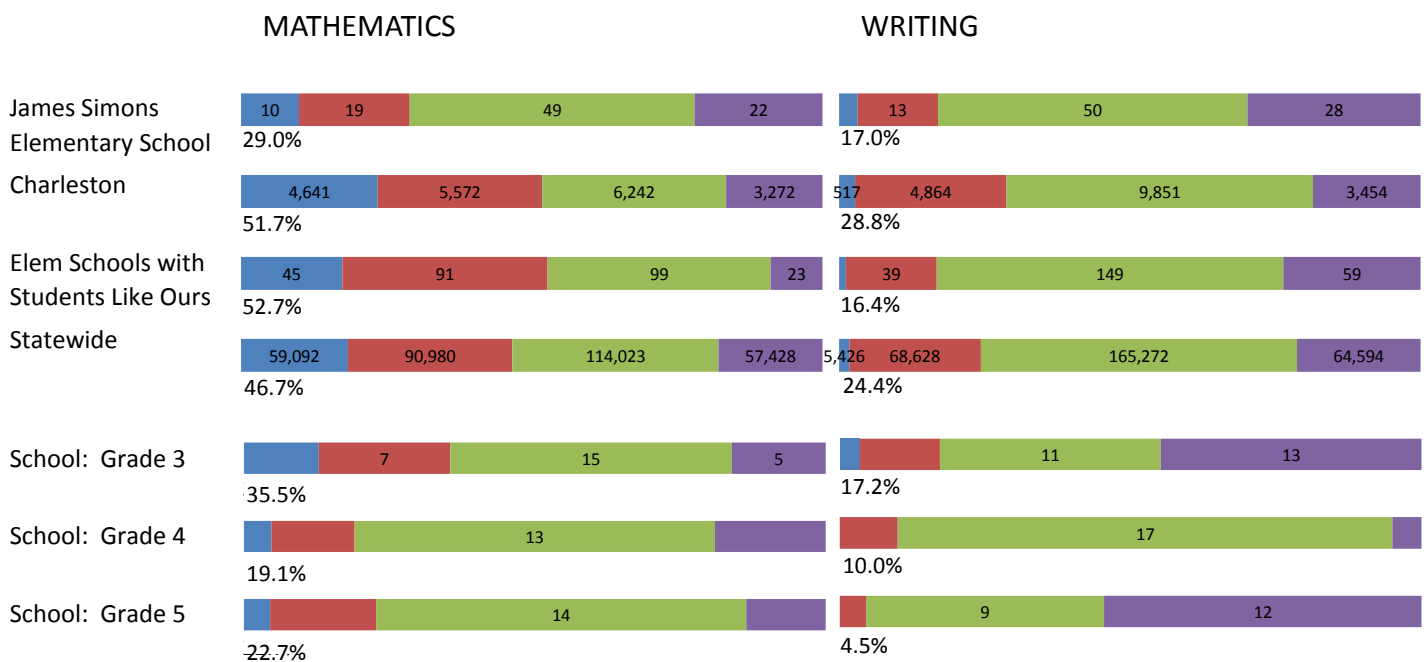
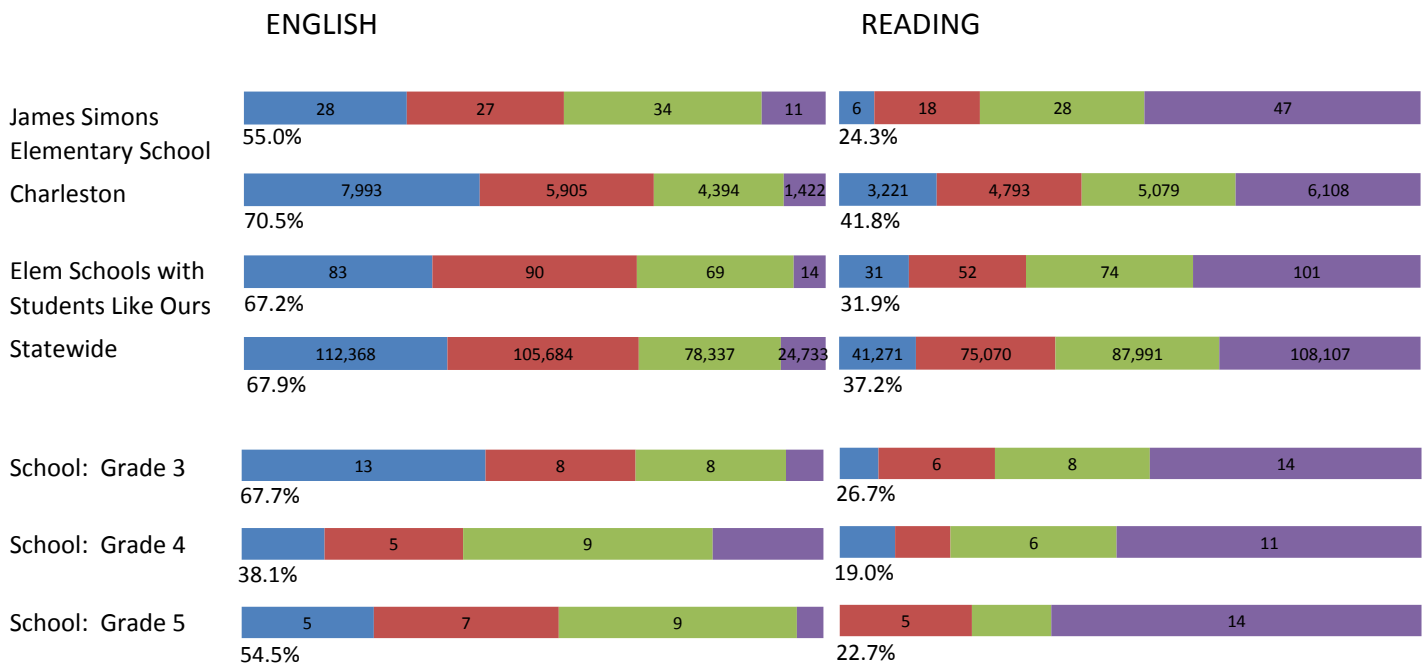
We are one of four schools in the Charleston Promise Neighborhood (CPN). The CPN is a nonprofit organization modeled after the highly successful Harlem Children's Zone project and is designed to ensure that every child and family has supports they need to thrive. The goal of CPN is to transform families within a generation. Some of the services provided through CPN include a health clinic, mental health services, and a college culture curriculum.

We believe that community involvement is a vital component of school success and are proud of our committed partners – two Universities, several churches, our mayor's office, and several local businesses.

Quenetta G. White, Principal  
Pamela Bryant, SIC Chair

**KNOWLEDGE**

The ACT Aspire assessment was given to students in grades 3-8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Reading, English, Mathematics and Writing



## Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

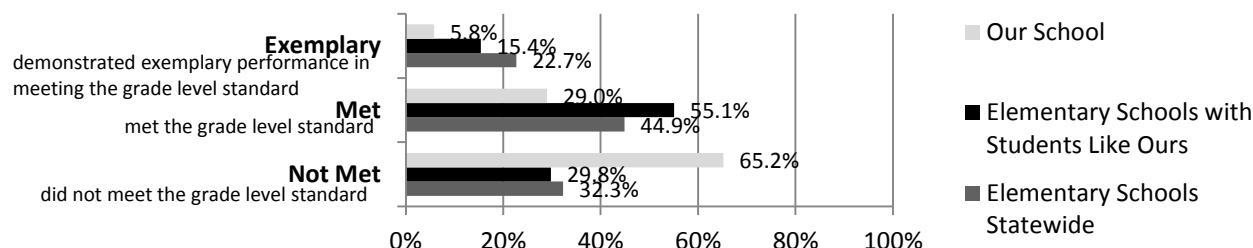
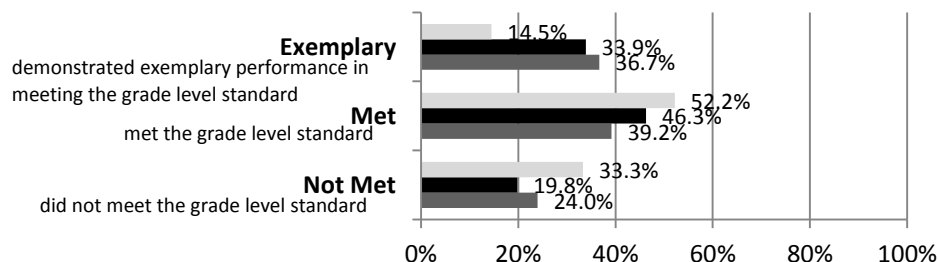
N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

**KNOWLEDGE**

The SC Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) was given to students in grades 4 - 8 in Spring 2015. Students were assessed in the subject areas of Science and Social Studies.

**Science****Social Studies****Science SCPASS**

Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level

4th grade	5th grade
38.1	31.8

**Social Studies SCPASS**

Our School: Percent Met and Above for each grade level

4th grade	5th grade
76.2	50.0

Note: Results include SC-Alt assessment results.

Exemplary

**"Exemplary"**: student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.

Met

**"Met"**: student met the grade level standard.

Not Met

**"Not Met"**: student did not meet the grade level standard.

Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours are elementary schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

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**OPPORTUNITIES****For students to meet the profile of the SC Graduate**

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with students like ours
<b>Students (n = 270)</b>			
Percent of students participating in Medicaid, SNAP, or TANF; homeless, foster, or migrant students (poverty index)	71.3	Down from 78.9%	N/A
Attendance Rate	95.9	Up from 95.7%	95.9
With disabilities	5.5	Up from 5.3%	13.1
Out of school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0	Down from 1.5%	0.0
Percentage of students served by gifted and talented programs	9.8	Up from 6.8%	7.4
Percentage of students retained	0.4	Up from 0.0%	1.1
<b>Teachers (n = 23)</b>			
Percentage of teachers with advanced degrees	52.2	Down from 54.5%	59.4
Percentage of teachers on continuing contract	65.2	Up from 54.5%	83.5
Teachers returning from previous year	64.0	Down from 67.4%	89.0
Teacher attendance rate	98.4	Down from 98.5%	94.9
Average teacher salary*	\$44,778	Up 3.6%	\$48,191
Professional development days / teacher	7.8 days	Down from 14.5 days	10.9 days
Percentage of teacher vacancies for more than 9 weeks	6.7	N/A	0.6
<b>School</b>			
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	5.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	1.1 to 1	Down from 9.3 to 1	20.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	93.7	Up from 92.6%	89.6
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good
Opportunities in foreign languages	Poor	N/A	Poor
AdvancEd (SACS) accreditation	No	No change	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0	Up from 97.1%	100.0
Character development program	Good	No change	Excellent
Avg. age of books / electronic media in the school library	13.0	N/A	15.1
Number of resources available per student in the school library media center	17.6	N/A	21.7
Bandwidth capacity per student	50-100 Mbps	N/C	N/A
Percent of classrooms with wireless access	51-75%	N/C	N/A
District-issued learning devices per student	0.7	N/C	0.9
District-issued technology devices per teacher	2.0	N/C	1.9
Percentage of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	12.4	Up from 7.8%	0.0
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$53,708	Down 39.8%	\$7,615
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	55.5	Up from 54.3%	67.1
Percent of expenditures for teachers' salaries**	56.5	Up from 54.8%	68.1

\* Includes current year teachers contracted for 190 days or more.

\*\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

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**OPPORTUNITIES****Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents****Evaluations by Teachers, Students, and Parents**

	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Students*</b>	<b>Parents*</b>
Number of surveys returned	21	23	9
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0	91.3	I/S
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0	82.6	I/S
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0	82.6	I/S

\* Only students at the highest elementary school grade and their parents were included.

**State Ratings History of School**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Absolute Rating</b>	<b>Growth Rating</b>
2014	Below Average	At-Risk
2013	Average	Good
2012	Average	Good

Based on state law, schools will not be rated for state accountability purposes until Fall 2017.

**Additional Resources**

SC State Content Standards  
[Family-Friendly Guides to the SC Content Standards](#)  
[2014-15 Accountability Manual](#)  
[Report Card Data Files](#)  
[ESEA Data Files](#)

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